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Naples, August 15, O. S.

CAptain Byng, the Admiral's eldeſt Son, is this Day gone Expreſs for England with the News of the entire Defeat of the Spaniſh Fleet, which has been received here with the greateſt Acclamations of Joy. The Spaniards ſtill attack Meſſina by Land, but very faintly; and German Troops are going over to reinforce the Garriſon.

Hampton-Court, Aug. 31. This Morning arrived here Captain Byng, with Letters from the Admiral his Father, containing the following Advices.

From on board the Barfleur off of Syracuſa, Aug. 6. O. S. Early in the Morning on the 30th of July, as we were ſtanding in for Meſſina, we ſaw 2 Scouts of the Spaniſh Fleet in the Faro very near us; and at the ſame Time a Felucca coming off from the Calabrian Shore, aſſured us they ſaw from the Hills the Spaniſh Fleet lying by. Upon which, the Admiral ſtood through the Faro after the Scouts, judging they would lead us to their Fleet; which they did, for before Noon we had a fair Sight of all their Ships, as they were drawing into Line of Battle. On our Approach they went from us large, but in their Order of Battle; their Fleet conſiſting of 26 Men of War, great and ſmall, two Fire-ſhips, four Bomb-Veſſels, ſeven Gallies, and ſeveral Ships with Stores and Proviſions. The Admiral ordered the Kent, Superbe, Grafton, and Orford, being the beſt Sailers in the Fleet, to make what Sail they could to come up with the Spaniards; and that the Ship which could get headmoſt and neareſt to them, ſhould carry the Lights uſually worn by the Admiral, that he might not loſe Sight of them in the Night; and he made what Sail he could with the reſt of the Fleet to keep up with them. It being little Wind, the Spaniſh Gallies towed their heavieſt Sailers all Night. The 31ſt in the Morning, as ſoon as it was Day, they finding us pretty near up with their Fleet, the Gallies and ſmaller Ships, with the Fire-ſhips, Bomb-Veſſels, and Store-ſhips, ſeparated from the Admiral and bigger Ships, and ſtood in for the Shore; after whom the Admiral ſent Captain Walton in the Canterbury, with the Argyle and ſix Ships more: As thoſe Ships were coming up with them, one of the Spaniards fired a Broadſide at the Argyle. The Admiral ſeeing thoſe Ships engaged with the Spaniſh which were making towards the Shore, ſent Orders to Captain Walton to rendezvous, after the Action, at Syracuſa (where the Viceroy for the King of Sicily was with a Garriſon:) The like Orders he diſpatched to the Flags, and to as many Ships as were within his Reach; that Place being defended againſt the Spaniards, and being the moſt proper Port on that Coaſt for the Fleet to gather together again. We held on our Chace after the Spaniſh Admiral, with three of his Rear Admirals, and the biggeſt Ships, which ſtaid by their Flags till we came near them. The Captains of the Kent, Superbe, Grafton, and Orford, having Orders to make what Sail they could, to place themſelves by the four headmoſt Ships, were the firſt that came up with them. The Spaniards began by firing their Stern-Chace at them; but they having Orders not to fire, unleſs the Spaniſh Ships repeated their Firing, made no Return at firſt; but the Spaniards firing again, the Orford attacked the Santa Roſa, which ſome Time after ſhe took. The St. Charles ſtruck next without much Oppoſition, and the Kent took Poſſeſſion of her. The Grafton attacked the Prince of Aſturias, formerly called the Cumberland, in which was Rear Admiral Chacon; but the Breda and Captain coming up, ſhe left that Ship for them to take, which they ſoon did, and ſtretched a-head after another 60 Gun Ship, which was on her Starboard Bow while ſhe was engaging the Prince of Aſturias, and kept firing her Stern-Chace into the Grafton. About One a Clock, the Kent and Superbe engaged the Spaniſh Admiral, which with two Ships more fired on them, and made a running Fight till about Three; when the Kent bearing down upon her, and under her Stern, gave her a Broadſide and went away to Leeward of her: Then the Superbe put for it, and laid the Spaniſh Admiral on board, falling on her Weather Quarter; but the Spaniſh Admiral ſhifting her Helm, and avoiding her, the Superbe ranged up under her Lee Quarter, on which ſhe ſtruck to her. At the ſame Time the Barfleur being within Shot of the ſaid Spaniſh Admiral a-ſtern inclining on her Weather-Quarter, one of their Rear Admirals, and another 60 Gun Ship, which were to Windward of the Barfleur, bore down and gave her their Broadſides, and then clapt upon a Wind, ſtanding in for the Land. The Admiral in the Barfleur ſtood after them till it was almoſt Night; but it being little Wind, and they galing from him out of Reach, he left purſuing them, and ſtood away to the Fleet again, which he joined two Hours after Night. The Eſſex took the Juno, the Mountague and Rupert took the Volante. Vice-Admiral Cornwall followed the Grafton to ſupport her, but it being very little Wind, and the Night coming on, the Spaniards galed away from the Grafton. Rear-Admiral Delaval with the Royal Oak chaced two Ships that went away more Leewardly than the reſt (one of them ſaid to be Rear-Admiral Cammock;) but we not having ſeen them ſince, know not the Succeſs. The Ship that ſuffered moſt with us was the Grafton, the Captain of which, though he had not the Fortune to take any particular Ship, yet was engaged with ſeveral, behaved himſelf very much like an Officer and a Seaman, and bid fair for ſtopping the Way of thoſe four Ships that he purſued, who got away not through his Fault but Failure of Wind, and his own Sails and Rigging were much ſhattered.

When the Admiral appeared off the Point of the Faro on the 29th of July, the Governour of Melazzo ſent off a Veſſel with a Letter acquainting him, that of 700 Horſe which blocked up that Place, part went away that Morning for Meſſina, and that he believed the reſt would follow the next Day; and that at the Sight of the Britiſh Fleet, the Country which had taken the Spaniards Part, appeared ready to return to their Duty.

From on Board the Barfleur at Sea, Aug. 7. O. S. Juſt now is returned one of the eight Ships which the Admiral ſent with Captain Walton to purſue thoſe of Spain that went in with the Shore, with a Letter from that Captain dated the 5th Inſtant, giving an Account, that he with the ſaid Ships had taken 1 Spaniſh Rear-Admiral of 60 Guns, 1 Man of War of 54, 1 of 40 which gave the Argyle the firſt Broadſide, 1 of 24, 1 Ship laden with Arms, 1 Bomb-Veſſel; and had burnt 1 Man of War of 54 Guns, 2 of 40 each, 1 of 30, 1 Fire-ſhip, 1 Bomb-Veſſel, 1 Sattee. At the Writing of this Letter Captain Walton was making into Syracuſa. The Ship which brought this Letter ſaw Rear-Admiral Delaval laſt Night, who had taken the Iſabella, a Ship of 60 Guns, with which he was ſtanding in likewiſe for Syracuſa, to which Place we are now going, and hope to get in there this Night. When

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